

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 293

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LEININGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USINFO

UNCLAS MOSCOW 6836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY MAY 17

USINFO FOR IOP/M

USIA FOR IBS,IEE,IPS

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. MIDDLE EAST

-- CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES ARRIVAL OF KOSYGIN IN TUNIS AND
KOSYGIN AND BOURGIBA SPEECHES AT DINNER ON MAY 16.

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SPEECHES TOUCH PRIMARILY ON BILATERAL AFFAIRS AND GENERALIZED

PLEDGES OF CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR DETENTE, WITH LITTLE
SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. KOSYGIN
DOES REAFFIRM SOVIET SOLIDARITY WITH NATIONAL LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS, INCLUDING PALESTINIANS AND PEOPLES OF INDICHINA.
--PRAVDA MAY 17 REPORTS DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN BOURGIBA AND
KOSYGIN CONTINUE: REPORT SAYS THAT BOTH AGREE THAT
JUST AND STABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST MUST REST ON
"LIQUIDATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION."

2. ASIA

--PRAVDA CARRIES MAJOR COMMENTARY ON VIETNAM STRESSING
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SETBACK TO IMPERIALISM. IT SEES
THE END OF THE WAR AS CONTRIBUTING TO IMPROVEMENT IN
INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE, AND EMPHASIZES THAT "VICTORY...
WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT GENEROUS ASSISTANCE
FROM SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH." (SEE SEPTEL).
--PRAVDA AND RED STAR REPORT IN TASS ITEM PROTESTS BY
CAMBODIAN INFORMATION MINISTER OF U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS
IN MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. THRUST OF PROTEST, AS PRESENTED
IN THESE REPORTS, IS THAT CAMBODIANS HAD ALREADY AGREED
TO RELEASE SHIP BEFORE U.S. ATTACKS.
--PRAVDA AND RED STAR REPORT THAILAND IS RECALLING ITS
AMBASSADOR FROM WASHINGTON "IN CONNECTION WITH THE
GROSS VIOLATION BY THE U.S. OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THIS
COUNTRY," WHICH, AS REPORTS EXPLAIN, OCCURRED WHEN
U.S. USED THAI TERRITORY TO CARRY OUT MILITARY ACTIONS
AGAINST CAMBODIA. RED STAR ADDS THAT THAILAND WILL
REEXAMINE ITS MILITARY AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.
--RED STAR REPORTS ARRIVAL OF FIRST SOVIET SHIP IN "HO CHI MINH",
AND SAYS THAT THREE ADDITIONAL SHIPS WILL BE ARRIVING SOON.
RED STAR SAYS THAT SHIPS ARE DELIVERING FOODSTUFFS, GASOLINE,
AND DIESEL FUEL.

--PRAVDA CARRIES USUAL DAILY ATTACK ON PEKING; TODAY'S
DEALS WITH ALLEGED ATTEMPTS BY CHINA TO PENETRATE INTO
PERSIAN GULF AREA.

3. BILATERAL

--IZVESTIYA CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH SOVIET AND AMERICAN SURGEONS
TAKING PART IN A JOINT U.S.-SOVIET SYMPOSIUM IN HEART DISEASES
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IN MOSCOW.

--RED STAR CARRIES ADDITIONAL REPORT IN RECENT SERIES ON
APOLLO-SOYUZ PROJECT. SAME PAPER ALSO DEVOTES CONSIDERABLE
SPACE TO FAVORABLE COVERAGE OF SHIP VISITS IN LENINGRAD AND
BOSTON. THIS BALANCED OFF, HOWEVER, BY LARGE PICTURE AND
UNFAVORABLE COMMENTARY ON U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN OKINAWA.

4. EUROPE

--CENTRAL PRESS REPORTS THAT WARSAW PACT PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS MEETING IN WARSAW FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PACT HAVE ISSUED YET ANOTHER STATEMENT ON "PEACE, SECURITY, COOPERATION, AND THE COMING TOGETHER OF THE PEOPLES OF EUROPE." DOCUMENT IS A FAIRLY STANDARD COMPENDIUM OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS, TONE OF WHICH CLOSELY RESEMBLES RECENT APPEAL TO "PEOPLES, PARLIAMENTS AND GOVERNMENTS." DOCUMENT RAISES THE POSSIBILITY OF CONVENING A CONFERENCE OF "REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTS" FOR DISCUSSION OF "VITAL PROBLEMS OF PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT" OF EUROPE.
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